## **HOLLOW-NEEDLE DRUGS ETC. APPLICATORS**

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A hollow needle applicator for cartridged drugs etc. has provision for automatic needle retraction after cartridge contents expression. Its drugs etc. cartridge (125, 225, 325) can itself be at least partially accommodated bodily within a hollow piston actuator (145, 345), and will be released for retractation under bias (123, 323) thereinto along with and by way of a piston rod (132, 332) first serving to operate contents (131, 331) discharge piston provision (130, 330) of the cartridge (125, 225, 335). The piston rod (132, 332) has deflectable arms (137, 337) that extend sideways further than side walling of the cartridge (125, 225, 335) and into temporary driving engagement with receiving formation(s) (147, 347) of the piston actuator (145, 345) until released by reflection of the arms (137, 337). The piston rod (132, 332) further has guiding formation(s) (138, 338) extending into the hollow piston actuator (145, 345). The guiding formations (138, 338) and piston actuator (145, 345) are shown with temporary latching provisions (138P, 145G). A triggering ring (160) is also shown for releasing driving connection between the arms (137, 337) and the receiving formations (147, 347).

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